

than 356,000 jobs and \$46.5 billion of economic activity.

Our Nation's environmental and infrastructure also has a backlog of important projects in need of funding. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that there is an annual investment need of between \$11.6 billion and \$20.1 billion to ensure a safe, clean supply of drinking water, and an additional need of an annual investment of between \$13 billion and \$20.9 billion in wastewater treatment. Further, a survey conducted by the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies found that, in just 58 communities, wastewater treatment facilities have more than \$4 billion of wastewater treatment projects that are ready to go to construction if funding is made available.

This bill provides a total of \$11.5 billion for wastewater and drinking water infrastructure investment, including: \$10 billion to construct, rehabilitate, and restore the Nation's wastewater and drinking water infrastructure through the existing State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs (\$8.5 billion for the Clean Water SRF and \$1.5 billion for the Safe Drinking Water SRF), and \$1.5 billion for wet weather overflow grants for planning, design, and construction of treatment works to address combined sewer and sanitary sewer overflows. This proposal would create more than 546,000 jobs and \$71 billion of economic activity.

In the area of marine transportation, the Coast Guard estimates that it will cost approximately \$6 billion over the next 10 years for ports and vessel owners to comply with security standards that the Coast Guard will prescribe under the Maritime Transportation Security Act. To date, only \$370 million has been appropriated to fund port security grants. In 2002, ports and marine facility operators submitted 712 proposals, totaling more than \$600 million, which were denied funding because of the lack of available resources. The requests for port security funding were seven times greater than the available funding.

This bill begins to address this funding shortfall by providing \$2.5 billion for port security grants to ports and marine facility operators for their costs to implement facility and port security plans pursuant to the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002. This proposal would create more than 118,000 jobs and \$15.5 billion of economic activity.

The Nation's water resources are also in need of investment to both protect and improve the quality water related infrastructure services, such as hydropower facilities, ports, dams, and water supply facilities. The Corps of Engineers has identified a need to assess and improve security at 372 critical infrastructure projects, and those efforts have not yet been completed. The Corps also has an unfunded operation and maintenance backlog of more than \$1 billion.

To address these needs, the bill provides \$1.5 billion to fund investment in currently authorized water resources infrastructure projects. This proposal would create more than 71,000 jobs and \$9.3 billion of economic activity.

There is also considerable unmet need in the area of economic development. Certain communities and regions of the country suffer from chronic economic distress. These communities and regions often have unemployment, poverty, and outmigration rates that are

more than 150 percent of the national average. These economically distressed communities and regions rely on federal investments to complete basic transportation and public infrastructure projects. The Economic Development Administration and existing regional commissions have no shortage of requests for assistance, but are woefully underfunded, and face drastic budget cuts under the Administration's FY2004 budget proposal.

This bill addresses this severe underfunding by providing \$1.5 billion in grants to economically distressed communities for economic development infrastructure projects. Grants are administered through the Economic Development Administration (\$1 billion), the Appalachian Regional Commission (\$150 million), the Delta Regional Authority (\$150 million), and the Northern Great Plains Regional Commission (\$150 million). This proposal would create more than 71,000 jobs and \$9.3 billion of economic activity.

Further, the General Services Administration (GSA)-controlled inventory of 1,860 existing Federal buildings is aging and requires extensive repair and renovation to ensure that Federal employees are housed in safe, modern facilities. GSA estimates that it needs \$5 billion over the next five years to fund the necessary repair, alterations, and rehabilitation of Federal buildings and it currently has approximately 5,500 work items pending for repair and alteration. The bill provides \$500 million for repair and alteration of Federal buildings and would create more than 23,000 jobs and \$3.1 billion of economic activity.

This package of infrastructure, transportation, and environmental investment and security enhancement makes sound economic sense. It provides funds where they are needed most and will get America working again. Our Nation needs an economic stimulus program that creates jobs in hard hit sectors of our economy, rehabilitates our basic infrastructure to allow us to remain competitive in world markets, addresses the infrastructure security needs of our transportation and environmental systems, and helps to revive our stagnant economy. Let us start by passing this bill.

#### CONCERNING THE SAFETY, SECURITY, AND FREEDOM OF THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, 54 years ago, on June 27, 1949, President Harry Truman deployed the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet to the Taiwan Strait to protect Taiwan against the possibility of an invasion by the People's Republic of China, PRC. Since then, we have committed ourselves to defending Taiwan, as enshrined in the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979. President Bush himself declared in 2001 that America would do whatever it takes to defend Taiwan. In light of the threat posed by the PRC's military buildup in Fukien, we must unequivocally stand by our promises to support Taiwan. America cannot afford to lose a democracy in such a volatile region—and the

people of Taiwan cannot afford to lose their safety, security, and freedom.

I rise today to call attention to an important resolution that I introduced today concerning the safety and security of Taiwan, and the right of Taiwan's 23 million people to determine their own future. In the past 2 decades, Taiwan has undergone a remarkable transformation from a one party, martial law dictatorship to a full-fledged democracy that respects human rights and human freedoms. Time and again, Taiwan has proven herself one of America's staunchest allies, recently pledging her support for continued humanitarian aid to both Afghanistan and Iraq. At the same time, however, Taiwan's democracy faces a serious military threat from the People's Republic of China. The PRC continues to regard Taiwan as a renegade province, despite the fact that it has never exercised control over the island. The PRC continues to openly entertain the use of force against Taiwan, thereby jeopardizing the stability of the entire Asian Pacific region.

A Washington Post report of June 11, 2003, reveals the PRC's plans to build up its military for the purpose of "unification with Taiwan." Already, the PRC has set up 400 short-range ballistic missiles in the province of Fukien, directly targeted at Taiwan, in addition to purchasing advanced weaponry systems, such as fighting aircrafts, submarines, and destroyers. The Washington Post reports that the PRC is accelerating its military acquisitions and notes that this buildup is "intended to create a force capable of bullying Taiwan and thwarting U.S. intervention in any conflict between China and Taiwan." In other words, the PRC is preparing to use force and coercion to take over a territory it has no legal right to, and to impose its totalitarian ideology on a people who have fought long and hard for their freedom, and who have no wish to live under Communist rule.

The resolution I introduced today is a step towards protecting a fellow democracy from the threat of Chinese aggression. The resolution calls on the Bush administration to seek from the leaders of the PRC a public and immediate renunciation of any threat or use of force against Taiwan. This includes the dismantling of the Fukien missiles and other military apparatus designed to intimidate Taiwan. The administration must let the PRC government know that America will no longer tolerate the constant harassment targeted towards the people of Taiwan. If the PRC government refuses to dismantle the missiles, the administration should then authorize the release of the Aegis system to Taiwan, enabling Taiwan to defend itself against any Chinese attack.

Mr. Speaker, these PRC missiles in Fukien province are not conducive to a peaceful resolution of current Taiwanese-Chinese relations. We can not expect the people of Taiwan to live their daily lives under such threatening and uncertain conditions. In the name of democracy, we must ensure that the future of Taiwan is determined peacefully, and with the expressed consent of the Taiwanese people. Also, I urge both my colleagues and the administration to support Taiwanese efforts to hold a referendum vote on the issue of admittance into the World Health Organization,

WHO. The people of Taiwan deserve to have their voices heard in this ongoing debate, the outcome of which will have a monumental effect on their health and well-being. As the foremost promoter of freedom and democracy

around the world, we can not in good faith deter the people of Taiwan from holding their referendum. There can be no double standard when it comes to exercising democracy.

Mr. Speaker, no group but the citizenry of Taiwan has the right to determine the future of

Taiwan. I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting democracy for the Taiwanese people, and ensuring their safety and security. Let us ensure that it will never be necessary to send the 7th Fleet to the Taiwan Strait again.